

Department of Inspections and Appeals

Lucas State Office Building • Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0083

For Immediate Release

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Contact: David Werning
Phone: (515) 281-7376

Nominations Sought for 2005 Governor's Award for Quality Care

DES MOINES, IOWA – Nominations are now being accepted for the 2005 Governor's Award for Quality Care in Health Care Facilities. The Governor's Award recognizes Iowa health care facilities that provide the highest quality of care to their residents. Nominations are open to all health care facilities licensed under Iowa Code Chapter 135C, which include nursing facilities, skilled nursing facilities, residential care facilities, and intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded or the mentally ill.

Last year two long-term care facilities were recognized for the quality of care provided to their residents. The facilities selected to receive a 2004 Governor's Award for Quality Care were Thomas Rest Haven in Coon Rapids and Kingsley Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Kingsley. Since the inception of the award, 25 long-term care facilities in Iowa have received a Governor's Award.

Residents, family members, or members of a facility's resident advocate committee may nominate an Iowa-licensed long-term care facility for the award. Facilities may not nominate themselves for the recognition. In order to be considered for a 2005 Governor's Award, the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals (DIA) must receive the nomination by the close of business on March 1, 2006. Nomination forms may be obtained by calling DIA's Health Facilities Division at (515) 281-4115. Forms may also be downloaded from the Department's web site at <http://www.state.ia.us/government/dia/>.

All nominations must clearly state the reason the facility should be considered, any unique services provided by the facility to its residents, and any activities undertaken by the facility to enhance the quality of care or quality of life for its residents. Upon receipt by DIA, the nominations will be evaluated and a list of finalists prepared. No more than two facilities from each Congressional District may be selected for a Governor's Award.

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